

Message Text

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15
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MMO-01 CU-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /053 W
----- 087816

R 091406Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3902
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY PONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV
SUBJECT: BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY: BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS WERE LOW KEY,
HIGHLIGHTED BY ATTENDANCE OF PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AT
AMBASSADOR'S INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPTION DAY RECEPTION. END SUMMARY.

2. CELEBRATION OF US BICENTENNIAL IN CYPRUS WAS MODEST
BUT EFFECTIVE, WITH SPECIAL EFFORT BY GOC TO DEMONSTRATE
FRIENDSHIP WITH PEOPLE OF US AND RECOGNITION OF US
HISTORICAL ROLE IN PROMOTING INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM.
GOC ISSUED AN ATTRACTIVE BICENTENNIAL STAMP WITH APPROPRIATE
COOPERATION WITH EMBASSY (FIRST-DAY COVERS AND LOOSE STAMPS
BEING FORWARDED BY AIRGRAM), CYPRIOT BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE
PROVIDED A SPEAKER FOR A COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE AT USIS
CULTURAL CENTER, AND PRESIDENT MAKARIOS MADE VERY
UNUSUAL GESTURE OF ATTENDING NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION.
LATTER WAS INTENDED TO BE SIGNIFICANT, AS HE HAS IN PAST ONLY
REGULARLY ATTENDED QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION, THE GREEK
NATIONAL DAY AND NO OTHER NATIONAL DAY CEREMONIES. HIS
ONLY OTHER ATTENDANCE AT JULY 4 RECEPTION WAS IN 1961, THE
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FIRST OCCASION AFTER CYPRUS INDEPENDENCE.

3. EMBASSY ARRANGED PICNIC FOR AMERICAN COMMUNITY JULY 4, HELD A BICENTENNIAL DISPLAY AT THE CULTURAL CENTER, PROVIDED VENUE FOR GOC BICENTENNIAL LECTURE AND AMBASSADOR HELD SMALL NOONTIME RECEPTION JULY 5 FOR GOC OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

4. ON TURKISH SIDE, TFSC "PRESIDENT" DENKTASH SENT LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS ON BICENTENNIAL TO PRESIDENT FORD. WE RESPONDED ORALLY TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATIONS OF US RECOGNITION OF TFSC.

5. GREEK PRESS COVERAGE OF BICENTENNIAL WAS LIMITED AND, FOR CYPRUS, RELATIVELY MODERATE. "PHILELEFTHEROS", WHICH REFLECTS MAKARIOS' VIEWPOINTS, PRAISED US DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF US IN FIRST 200 YEARS WITH THE NOTABLE EXCEPTION OF US POLICY TOWARD CYPRUS IN RECENT YEARS. EDITORIAL ENDED WITH KNIFE-TWIST THAT WHILE PEOPLE OF US ARE FRIENDLY TO CYPRUS, U.S. GOVERNMENT IS NOT FOLLOWING POLICIES WHICH HELP GUARANTEE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS OR THE WELL-BEING OF ITS CITIZENS.

6. IN SUM, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT BICENTENNIAL WAS A SUCCESS FOR US. ATTENDANCE BY PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AT AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION WAS SEEN BY MANY OBSERVERS AS A DISTINCT CHANGE IN POLICY BY GOC. MOST OF OUR CONTACTS

HERE TOOK IT AS AN INDICATION THAT IT IS NOW APPROPRIATE FOR GREEK CYPRIOTS TO HAVE WARMER RELATIONS WITH US OFFICIALS AND USG. ANOTHER INDICATION OF RELAXATION OF ATTITUDES TOWARD US WAS LARGE NUMBER OF CONGRATULATORY TELEGRAMS FROM GREEK CYPRIOTS. ON TURKISH SIDE MUCH LESS ATTENTION WAS PAID TO BICENTENNIAL. ASIDE FROM DENKTASH STATEMENT, THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITY. TURKISH CYPRIOT NEWSPAPERS CONTAINED ALMOST NO REPORTING OR COMMENT.

CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NICOSI01907
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760296-0510
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760771/aaaackpq.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <04 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES IN CYPRUS
TAGS: PDEV, CY, US, (MAKARIOS, ARCHBISHOP)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006